

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1(currently amended): High burring, high strength, hot-rolled steel sheet excellent in softening resistance of the weld heat affected zone characterized by consisting essentially of,

by wt%,

C: 0.01 to 0.1%,

Si: 0.01 to 2%,

Mn: 0.05 to 3%,

P≤0.1%,

S≤0.03%,

Al: 0.005 to 1%,

N: 0.0005 to 0.005%, and

Ti: 0.05 to 0.5%

and further containing C, S, N, Ti, Cr, and Mo in ranges satisfying

$0\% < C - (12/48Ti \text{ } [[+]] - 12/14N - 12/32S) \leq 0.05\%$ and

$Mo + Cr \geq 0.2\%$, $Cr \leq 0.5\%$, and $Mo \leq 0.5\%$,

the balance comprising Fe and unavoidable impurities, wherein the microstructure is composed of only bainitic ferrite and bainite,

wherein an effective amount of solid solution C is present in said hot-rolled welded steel sheet to achieve excellent softening resistance at the weld heat affected zone.

2 (currently amended): High burring, high strength, hot-rolled steel sheet excellent in softening resistance of the weld heat affected zone according to claim 1, characterized in that

said steel further consisting essentially of, by wt%,

Nb: 0.01 to 0.5%

and further contains Nb in a range satisfying

$0\% < C - (12/48Ti - 12/93Nb \text{ [[+]]} - 12/14N - 12/32S) \leq 0.05\%$,

the balance comprising Fe and unavoidable impurities.

3 (previously presented): High burring, high strength, hot-rolled steel sheet excellent in softening resistance of the weld heat affected zone as set forth in claim 1 or 2, characterized by further consisting essentially of, by wt%, one or two of Ca: 0.0005 to 0.002%, a REM: 0.0005 to 0.02%, and B: 0.0002 to 0.002%.

4 (previously presented): High burring, high strength, hot-rolled steel sheet excellent in softening resistance of the weld heat affected zone as set forth in claim 1 or 2, characterized by being automotive thin steel sheet coated with zinc.

Claims 5 to 9: (canceled).

10 (currently amended): High burring, high strength, hot-rolled steel sheet excellent in softening resistance of the weld heat affected zone as set forth in claim 1 or 2 characterized by consisting essentially of,

by wt%,

C: 0.01 to 0.1%,

Si: 0.01 to 2%,

Mn: 0.05 to 3%,

P≤0.1%,

S≤0.03%,

Al: 0.005 to 1%,

N: 0.0005 to 0.005%, and

Ti: 0.05 to 0.5%

and further containing C, S, N, Ti, Cr, and Mo in ranges satisfying

$0\% < C - (12/48Ti - 12/14N - 12/32S) \leq 0.05\%$ and

$Mo + Cr \geq 0.2\%$, $Cr \leq 0.5\%$, and $Mo \leq 0.5\%$,

the balance comprising Fe and unavoidable impurities, wherein the microstructure is composed of only bainitic ferrite and bainite and the bainitic ferrite and bainite structures contained in the hot-rolled steel sheet before welding not including carbides inside ferrite laths and between ferrite laths other than Ti and Nb carbides.